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## Hours and Closings

### Hours

Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat 9 - 5

Tue, Thu 9 - 7

Sun 1 - 5

### Holiday Closings

The Library will be closed  
December 25, 26, and 27 for  
Christmas.

## Follow Us Online

[The Library on Facebook](#)

[The Library on Twitter](#)

## Celebrate the Holidays with the Library

The Society Library will be celebrating the holidays with some particularly special events:

[A Christmas Oratorio](#): By popular demand, two performances of W.H. Auden's *For the Time Being: A Christmas Oratorio*

[Jane Austen's Birthday](#):

Celebrate with the famous author herself (portrayed by Karen Eterovich) as she relates her triumphs and tragedies

[A Season of Gifts](#): That's the title of award winner Richard Peck's thirtieth book.



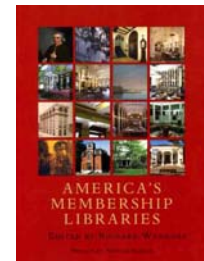
## Give the Gift of Reading

For the library lover on your list, we offer a handful of unique gift possibilities, available at the circulation desk.

**Gift Memberships**: Gift memberships for a year or six months offer the recipient all the privileges you treasure, from books to workshops.

**Library Tote Bags (\$15)** featuring our handsome logo, adapted from the 1930s bronze by Paul Manship.

**America's Membership Libraries (\$36)**. A beautiful full-color hardcover book introducing sixteen of the nation's membership libraries, including this one. This is a major discount from current cover price.



**The President's Wife and the Librarian**

**Exhibition Catalog (\$10)**. A gracious visit with Edith Kermit Roosevelt, Theodore Roosevelt's First Lady, and the reading world of the past.

A **Gift to the Library**. Gifts to the Annual Appeal are always welcome, including those in honor or memory of a loved one. Or, if you wish to create the unique and personal gift of a **named book fund**, please contact the Development Office at 212-288-6900 x214.

## Snow Policy

On the rare occasions when the Library closes due to inclement winter weather, we update our telephone announcements as soon as possible. If in doubt, you are also welcome to check

the New York Public Library closing hotline at 212-391-2990. The Society Library generally follows the NYPL's pattern of closings.

## Upcoming Events

### [Affinity Collaborative Theater](#)

#### [W.H. Auden's \*For the Time Being: A Christmas Oratorio\*](#)

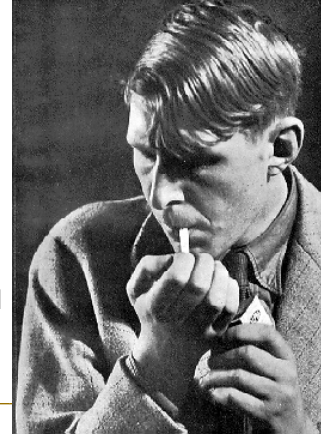
produced by Sheila Schwartz, Diane Morrison, and John Dias

Sunday, December 6, 7:00 p.m.

Monday, December 7, 7:00 p.m. (two separate performances)

Members' Room; \$20 per person. [Advance registration](#) is required.

Affinity Collaborate Theater return for the second year with their moving and popular production. Written during the height of the Second World War, Auden's *Oratorio* is a parable merging the Biblical and the contemporary. This concert-style dramatic reading is directed by Tony Award winner Michael Cumpsty and narrated by Maria Tucci, with a cast of exceptional classically trained actors.



### [Karen Eterovich](#)

#### [Cheer from Chawton: A Jane Austen Family Theatrical](#)

Saturday, December 12, 2:00 p.m., Members' Room

\$20 per person. [Advance registration](#) is required.

Seasonal refreshments served.

The time: Jane Austen's birthday. The setting: Chawton Great House, the home of Austen's brother, where the family have gathered for a "theatrical," like the one in *Mansfield Park*, and instead urge Jane to share her pointed observations on them, their friends, suitors, and society, as well as her own hilarious early efforts as an author. This delightful one-woman show uses original text woven with excerpts from Austen's beloved novels, letters, and juvenilia, together with suitable speech, period movement, costume, and music. *Cheer from Chawton* reveals the humor, affection, character, and depth of a dependent "old maid" who wrote, with little fame or remuneration, some of the greatest novels in the English language.



### [Richard Peck](#)

#### [A Season of Gifts](#)

for adults and students in third grade and above

Wednesday, December 16, 5:30 p.m., Members' Room

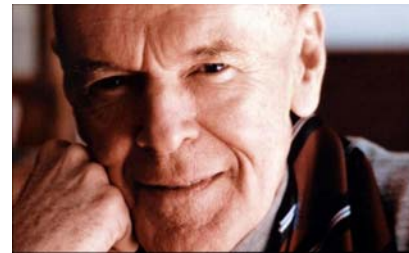
\$5 per person, at the door.

To register, contact the Children's Library,

212-288-6900 x234 or [e-mail](#).

Seasonal refreshments served.

An eggnog toast will be offered in honor of Library author Richard Peck's thirtieth book. *A Season of Gifts* continues the story begun in the Newbery Medal winner *A Year Down Yonder* and the Newbery Honor book *A Long Way From Chicago*, starring the gruff, unorthodox, and fiercely independent matron in small-town Illinois, Grandma Dowdel. In this book, Mrs. Dowdel works her particular brand of charm-or medicine, depending on who you're asking-on her new neighbors, helping them find the



true home they didn't realize they were seeking. *Kirkus Reviews* calls it "one of Peck's best novels yet-and that's saying something."

Richard Peck's books are among the most beloved and acclaimed in contemporary children's and young-adult literature. In addition to his Newbery honors, he was the first young-adult author to receive a National Humanities Medal, and he has twice been a finalist for the National Book Award.

### For Member Writers

Events and information of interest to member writers. Events open to all members.

### The Writing Life

#### [Self-Publishing 101](#)

Tuesday, December 8, 10 a.m., Whitridge Room  
Free for all members. [Advance registration](#) is requested

When David Carnoy, Executive Editor of CNET Reviews/CBS Interactive wrote his book *Knife Music*, he tried to go the traditional route. Then, against his agent's advice, he began researching and evaluating self-publishing sites, related blogs, and customer testimonials. David will join us to talk about what you need to know if you are thinking about self-publishing.



### November's "Just for Fun"

Congratulations to member Maria Dering, who took home a tote bag with her correct answer to our quiz question: the Whitridge Room on the third floor. Watch future issues for more quizzes and prizes!

### [Forward to a friend](#)

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